

METHOD OF FORWARDING MESSAGES TO
MOBILE OBJECTS IN A COMPUTER NETWORK

ABSTRACT OF THE DISCLOSURE

5 In a computer network (100), a first object (102) is moved from a current host address and port number (104) to a new host address and port number (114). A forwarder object (122) associated with the first object (102) is created at the current host and port number (104). The forwarder object (122) includes the new host address and port number (114) for the first object (102). A second object (126) at a different host address and port number (128) creates a message (MSG2) destined for the first object (102). Not knowing that the first object (102) has moved, the second object sends the message (MSG2) to the current host address and port number (104). The forwarder object (122) intercepts and forwards the message (MSG2) to the first object (102) at the new host address and port number (114). The first object (102) returns a reply message (REPLY2) directly to the second object (126). The reply message (REPLY2) includes the new host address and port number (114) for the first object (102). The second object (126) updates its reference to the first object (102) in response to the reply message (REPLY2). Subsequent messages from the second object (126) to the first object (102) can now be delivered directly without going through the forwarder object (122).